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CLAIMS

We claim:

    1. A method for processing program data, comprising the step of:

        receiving program data;

10   receiving selection of a program;

        receiving request for recording of the selected program; and

        determining whether the selected program is already in progress, and if the selected program is already in progress, providing a choice to record a later occurrence of the selected

15   program so that the entire selected program may be recorded.

    2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a choice to record remaining portion of the selected program in progress.

20   3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of searching the program data for the later occurrence of the selected program.

    4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a warning that that selected program is already in progress.

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5   5.   The method of claim 1, wherein the later occurrence of the selected program is the next immediate occurrence of the selected program.

6. A system for processing program data, comprising the step of:

10   means for receiving program data;

            means for receiving selection of a program and a request for recording of the selected program; and

            means for determining whether the selected program is already in progress, and if the selected program is already in

15   progress, providing a choice to record a later occurrence of the selected program so that the entire selected program may be recorded.

7.   The system of claim 6 wherein the means for determining

20   further providing a choice to record remaining portion of the selected program in progress.

8.   The system of claim 6 wherein the means for determining further searching the program data for the later occurrence of the selected

25   program.

9.   The system of claim 6 wherein the means for determining further providing a warning that the selected program is already in progress.

10.   The system of claim 6, wherein the later occurrence of the selected program is the next immediate occurrence of the selected program.

11.   In a video apparatus in which at least program data for programs is received to form a channel guide, method comprising:

receiving a user request;

performing a search of said program data for a match to said user entered request;

determining, if a matched program is found, whether said found program is in progress; and

if said found program is already in progress, offering to record a later occurrence of the found program so that the entire found program may be recorded.

12.   The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of providing a choice to record remaining portion of the found program in progress.

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13. The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of searching the program data for the later occurrence of the found program.

14. The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of 10 providing a warning that the found program is already in progress.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein the later occurrence of the found program is the next immediate occurrence of the found program.